Suggested Summer Reading List 2016
Students Entering First Grade

Picture Books

**Arnie the Doughnut** by Laurie Keller
Innocent Arnie is delighted when Mr. Bing selects him from a tray at the Downtown Bakery. Unfortunately, he is shocked to discover the real reason people buy doughnuts. Arnie refuses to be eaten and starts to come up with many reasons why he should remain whole. Soon, he finds the perfect solution for his problem.

**Chopsticks** by Amy Kraus Rosenthal
Meet Chopsticks! They’ve been best friends forever. But one day, this inseparable pair comes to a fork in the road. And for the very first time, they have to figure out how to function apart.

**Chrysanthemum** by Kevin Henkes
Young mouse Chrysanthemum loves her name - until she starts school and finds the teasing of her peers unbearable. Then the beloved music teacher, Mrs. Delphinium Twinkle, announces that she plans to name her baby Chrysanthemum, and suddenly everyone wants to be named after a flower.

**Creepy Carrots** by Aaron Reynolds
The carrots that grow in Crackenhopper Field are the fattest and crispiest around and Jasper Rabbit cannot resist pulling some to eat each time he passes by, until he begins hearing and seeing creepy carrots wherever he goes.

**David Goes to School** by David Shannon
In his very traditional school, David is expected to follow all the rules. He can’t run in the halls, cut in line, call out, or swing his paintbrush around. Drawing on his desk is the final straw, and although punishments have already been given out, it’s time for him to stay after school and wash the desks. He does a stellar job and is rewarded with his teacher’s words of praise.
**The Day the Crayons Quit** by Drew Daywalt

Poor Duncan just wants to color. But when he opens his box of crayons, he finds only letters, all saying the same thing: His crayons have had enough! They quit! Beige Crayon is tired of playing second fiddle to Brown Crayon. Black wants to be used for more than just outlining. Blue needs a break from coloring all those bodies of water. And Orange and Yellow are no longer speaking--each believes he is the true color of the sun. What can Duncan possibly do to appease all of the crayons and get them back to doing what they do best?

**How Rocket Learned to Read** by Tad Hills

Rocket is minding his own business one fall morning when a little yellow bird gets him hooked on a story she is reading aloud. She proceeds to give him lessons in the alphabet before flying away for the winter. He practices— all by himself— until his teacher returns in the spring and they read happily ever after.

**If I Built a House** by Chris Van Dusen

Imaginative Jack describes the kind of house he would build—one with a racetrack, a flying room, and a gigantic slide.

**Pete the Cat and the Bedtime Blues** by Kim Dean

Pete the Cat and his friends are having so much fun playing and surfing in the sun, they don’t want the day to end. Pete has an idea—how about a sleepover? Groovy! As the night gets later, it’s time for bed. This cool cat needs to catch some ZZZs, but Pete’s friends aren’t ready to go to sleep just yet. Then Pete has another idea. . . . Will it work?

**You Read to Me, I’ll Read to You** by Mary Hoberman

Four books in this series each present “very short” Mother Goose nursery rhymes, fairy tales, short stories and scary stories, each told in two voices designed especially for children and adults to read together.
Beginning Readers Series

**Fly Guy** by Ted Arnold
A boy has a pet fly named Fly Guy. Fly Guy could say the boy’s name—Buzz! With seven books in this series, Buzz and Fly Guy have many funny and action-packed adventures, from going on a family vacation to joining the football team.

**Biscuit** by Alyssa Capucilli
Biscuit is a playful little yellow puppy that likes to investigate new places, make new friends and learn new things. Although mischievous at times, Biscuit’s adventures are always funny.

**Minnie and Moo** by Denys Cazet
Minnie and Moo live on a farm and are best friends—and are cows. They have wonderful adventures, even though some of them don’t turn out exactly as planned.

**Frog and Toad** by Arnold Lobel
Frog and Toad are always there for each other—just as best friends should be. From sledding in winter to eating ice cream on hot summer days.

**Fancy Nancy** by Jane O’Conner
Nancy, who loves everything fancy, is back in a new "I Can Read" series. Whether it’s Pajama Day at school or a trip to the museum, Nancy makes every day extra fancy.

**Amelia Bedelia** by Peggy Parrish
Meet Amelia Bedelia, the hardworking housekeeper who does exactly what the Rogers family asks her to. When she’s told to "draw the drapes," Amelia Bedelia gets out her pad and pencil. From "dusting the furniture" to "changing the towels," Amelia Bedelia has her own special way of following instructions.

**Elephant and Piggie** by Mo Willems
Meet two lovable and funny friends: Gerald, a cautious and pessimistic elephant and Piggie, an optimistic but sometimes reckless pig. These friendship stories are a first introduction to graphic novels.
**Nonfiction**

*Little Dog Lost: the True Story of a Brave Dog Named Baltic* by Monica Carnesi

On a cold winter day, a curious dog wandered onto a frozen river, and before he knew it he was traveling fast on a sheet of ice. Many people tried to help, but the dog could not be reached. Finally, after two nights and seventy-five miles, the little dog was saved by a ship out in the Baltic Sea.

*Firefly July* selected by Paul B. Janeczko

It only takes a few words, if they’re the right words, to create a strong image. Whether listened to in the comfort of a cozy lap or read independently, the thirty-six very short poems in this collection remind readers young and old that a few perfect words and pictures can make the world glow.

*Actual Size* by Steven Jenkins

This book contains life-size illustrations of eighteen creatures great and small. Each animal, or part of each animal is depicted in actual size and compared to the size of another animal. One or two brief sentences, followed by the animal’s height/length and weight, accompany each picture. Additional facts are included at the back, along with a complete illustration of each animal.

*Open Wide: Tooth School Inside!* by Laurie Keller

Dr. Flossman and his 32 young pupils (eight incisors, four canines, eight premolars, and twelve molars) explore tooth decay and care. The students sit in a classroom circle that matches their locations in the mouth. Even the Tooth Fairy pops in to explain her role. There’s plenty of information cleverly woven into laugh-out-loud humor for all ages.

*Monster Trucks* by Kay Minolis

An introduction to monster trucks, explaining what they are, examining the parts of a monster truck, and looking at monster trucks in action.